



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

OFFICE OF  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

July 16, 2012

STATEMENT OF INSPECTOR GENERAL ERIC M. THORSON  
REGARDING INVESTIGATIONS OF ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING TREASURY  
EMPLOYEES AND PROGRAMS

The Treasury Office of Inspector General (OIG), like all other Federal offices of inspector general, is responsible for investigating allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse by employees, contractors, and grant recipients, involving departmental programs and operations.

The Treasury OIG reports of investigation currently in the news, represent a number of investigations we have conducted over several years, based on matters referred to us by employees, Treasury Department management and other sources. We review all allegations that we receive, and follow matters wherever the evidence takes us. Where appropriate, we refer investigative results for prosecutive consideration, as well as to agency management for appropriate disciplinary and other corrective action.

The Treasury leadership does not intervene in our investigative and audit work, and in fact strongly supports our mission to aggressively investigate allegations and to identify misconduct, when and wherever we may find it. My opinion is that Treasury has a highly ethical institutional culture, and that these investigative reports are good examples of the fact that the Department has been successful in demonstrating that there is little tolerance for individual misconduct. These reports, on even minor infractions, serve notice to the public and to the employees of Treasury, that both our office and the leadership of the Department do not tolerate any breach of integrity or ethics.